

himself an imperishable niche in the history of Ms country. Assuredly no historian, whatever his school, whatever his opinions, will be able to omit Zola's name from any record of the Third French Republic, for, as M. Anatole France said at his graveside, the consequences of Zola's action in the Affair have been immense. Far-reaching changes in the internal policy of France have proceeded from Ms deed, which led to a disclosure of the real sentiments of those Clericalists and Militarists who were closing in upon tie , Republic to destroy it. For a time the issue seemed doubtful ; but the policy of Republican defence was inaugurated by M. "Waldeck-Rousseau and has proceeded and expanded under his successor, M. Combes. To Zola and his letter <sup>e</sup> JPaccuse/' and to the letter's various consequences, many of the events which have occurred in Prance since 1898 may be easily traced, even bj those who know nothing of the novelist's political friendships, of his private intercourse with statesmen who during the Dreyfus turmoil lacked either the opportunity or the energy to intervene, and who, while privately assuring Zola of their sympathy, their conviction even that he was right, repeated to. Mm:" Unfortunatly I am not in office and I am therefore powerless. Besides, though I see the danger which you point out, it is very difficult to deal with. One must act with extreme

prudence, for the patriotism of the  
electorate is aroused, and  
the Republic might be wrecked by  
precipitate action."  
Subsequently, after the death of Flix  
Faure, who was too  
deeply committed to the military party  
to take any honest,  
impartial action, some of the men who  
had held such lan-  
guage as one has indicated came to  
the front again, and  
then, as they gradually took  
confidence, things slowly